

**BEFORE THE  
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**In the Matter of the Accusation  
Against:**

**GARY STEVEN CHRISTENSEN, M.D.**

**Case No. 8002017029057**

**Physician's and Surgeon's  
Certificate No. G44531**

**Respondent**

**DECISION**

**The attached Stipulated Surrender of License is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.**

**This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on January 19, 2018**

**IT IS SO ORDERED January 12, 2018**

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kimberly Kirchmeyer  
Executive Director**

1 XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General of California  
2 JANE ZACK SIMON  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 EMILY L. BRINKMAN  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 219400  
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000  
5 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004  
Telephone: (415) 703-5742  
6 Facsimile: (415) 703-5843  
E-mail: Emily.Brinkman@doj.ca.gov  
7 *Attorneys for Complainant*

8 **BEFORE THE**  
**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
10 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2017-029057

12 **GARY STEVEN CHRISTENSEN, M.D.**  
Box 22233  
13 Flagstaff, AZ 86002

**STIPULATED SURRENDER OF  
LICENSE AND ORDER**

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.**  
**G44531**

15 Respondent.  
16

17 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-  
18 entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical Board  
21 of California (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in  
22 this matter by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Emily L. Brinkman,  
23 Deputy Attorney General.

24 2. Gary Steven Christensen, M.D. (Respondent) is representing himself in this  
25 proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel.

26 3. On or about May 4, 1981, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.  
27 G44531 to Gary Steven Christensen, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's  
28

1 Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation  
2 No. 800-2017-029057 and will expire on June 30, 2018, unless renewed.

3 JURISDICTION

4 4. Accusation No. 800-2017-029057 was filed before the (Board), and is currently  
5 pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were  
6 properly served on Respondent on July 20, 2017. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense  
7 contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2017-029057 is attached as Exhibit A  
8 and incorporated by reference.

9 ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

10 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in  
11 Accusation No. 800-2017-029057. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the  
12 effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order.

13 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a  
14 hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at  
15 his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to  
16 present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel  
17 the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and  
18 court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California  
19 Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

20 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and  
21 every right set forth above.

22 CULPABILITY

23 8. Respondent admits the First and Second Cause for Discipline in Accusation No. 800-  
24 2017-029057, and he agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Physician's  
25 and Surgeon's Certificate No. G44531 for the Board's formal acceptance.

26 9. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue  
27 an order accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further  
28 process.

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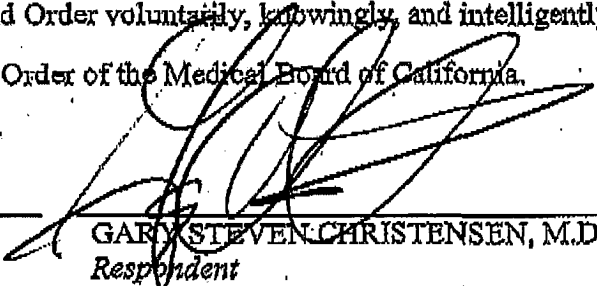
P. 005

4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2017-029057 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED: 30 Nov 2017

  
GARY STEVEN CHRISTENSEN, M.D.  
Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General of California  
JANE ZACK SIMON  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

EMILY L. BRINKMAN  
Deputy Attorney General  
Attorneys for Complainant

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4. If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2017-029057 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California.

DATED:

GARY STEVEN CHRISTENSEN, M.D.  
*Respondent*

## ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: 11/30/2017

Respectfully submitted,

XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General of California  
JANE ZACK SIMON  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

EMILY L. BRINKMAN  
Deputy Attorney General  
*Attorneys for Complainant*

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41812810.doc

**Exhibit A**

**Accusation No. 800-2017-029057**

1 XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General of California  
2 JANE ZACK SIMON  
Supervising Deputy Attorney General  
3 EMILY L. BRINKMAN  
Deputy Attorney General  
4 State Bar No. 219400  
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000  
5 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004  
Telephone: (415) 703-5742  
6 Facsimile: (415) 703-5843  
E-mail: Emily.Brinkman@doj.ca.gov  
7 Attorneys for Complainant

FILED  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
SACRAMENTO July 20 20 17  
BY                      ANALYST

8 **BEFORE THE**  
9 **MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**  
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 800-2017-029057

13 **Gary Steven Christensen, M.D.**  
Box 22233  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

**A C C U S A T I O N**

14 **Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate**  
15 **No. G44531,**

16 Respondent.

17  
18 Complainant alleges:

19 **PARTIES**

20 1. Kimberly Kirchmeyer (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official  
21 capacity as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer  
22 Affairs (Board).

23 2. On or about May 4, 1981, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's  
24 Certificate Number G44531 to Gary Steven Christensen, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's  
25 and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought  
26 herein and will expire on June 30, 2018, unless renewed. On July 11, 2017, the Physician's and  
27 Surgeon's Certificate was automatically suspended by reason of Respondent's incarceration  
28



1 following a felony conviction and Respondent is prohibited from engaging in the practice of  
2 medicine while the suspension is in effect.

### 3 JURISDICTION

4 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following  
5 laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

6 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the  
7 Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed  
8 one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other  
9 action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.

10 5. Section 141 of the Code states:

11 "(a) For any licensee holding a license issued by a board under the jurisdiction of the  
12 department, a disciplinary action taken by another state, by any agency of the federal government,  
13 or by another country for any act substantially related to the practice regulated by the California  
14 license, may be a ground for disciplinary action by the respective state licensing board. A  
15 certified copy of the record of the disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state,  
16 an agency of the federal government, or another country shall be conclusive evidence of the  
17 events related therein.

18 "(b) Nothing in this section shall preclude a board from applying a specific statutory  
19 provision in the licensing act administered by that board that provides for discipline based upon a  
20 disciplinary action taken against the licensee by another state, an agency of the federal  
21 government, or another country."

22 6. Section 490 of the Code states:

23 "(a) In addition to any other action that a board is permitted to take against a licensee, a  
24 board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a  
25 crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business  
26 or profession for which the license was issued.

27 "(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board may exercise any authority to  
28 discipline a licensee for conviction of a crime that is independent of the authority granted under

1 subdivision (a) only if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties  
2 of the business or profession for which the licensee's license was issued.

3 “(c) A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a  
4 conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. An action that a board is permitted to take  
5 following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or  
6 the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is  
7 made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section  
8 1203.4 of the Penal Code.

9 “(d) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the application of this section has been  
10 made unclear by the holding in *Petropoulos v. Department of Real Estate* (2006) 142 Cal.App.4th  
11 554, and that the holding in that case has placed a significant number of statutes and regulations  
12 in question, resulting in potential harm to the consumers of California from licensees who have  
13 been convicted of crimes. Therefore, the Legislature finds and declares that this section  
14 establishes an independent basis for a board to impose discipline upon a licensee, and that the  
15 amendments to this section made by Chapter 33 of the Statutes of 2008 do not constitute a change  
16 to, but rather are declaratory of, existing law.”

17 7. Section 493 of the Code states:

18 “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within  
19 the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a  
20 license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the  
21 ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the  
22 qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the  
23 crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact,  
24 and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in  
25 order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the  
26 qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question.

27 “As used in this section, “license” includes “certificate,” “permit,” “authority,” and  
28 “registration.”

1           8.     Section 802.1 of the Code states:

2           “(a)(1) A physician and surgeon, osteopathic physician and surgeon, a doctor of podiatric  
3 medicine, and a physician assistant shall report either of the following to the entity that issued his  
4 or her license:

5           “(A) The bringing of an indictment or information charging a felony against the licensee.

6           “(B) The conviction of the licensee, including any verdict of guilty, or plea of guilty or no  
7 contest, of any felony or misdemeanor.

8           “(2) The report required by this subdivision shall be made in writing within 30 days of the  
9 date of the bringing of the indictment or information or of the conviction.

10          “(b) Failure to make a report required by this section shall be a public offense punishable by  
11 a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).”

12          9.     Section 2305 of the Code states:

13          “The revocation, suspension, or other discipline, restriction or limitation imposed by  
14 another state upon a license or certificate to practice medicine issued by that state, or the  
15 revocation, suspension, or restriction of the authority to practice medicine by any agency of the  
16 federal government, that would have been grounds for discipline in California of a licensee under  
17 this chapter shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct against the  
18 licensee in this state.”

19          10.    Section 2234 of the Code, states, in relevant part:

20          “The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional  
21 conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not  
22 limited to, the following:

23          “(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the  
24 violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

25          “(b) Gross negligence.

26          “(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or  
27 omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from  
28 the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.

1       “(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate  
2 for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.

3       “(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that  
4 constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a  
5 reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the  
6 applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the  
7 standard of care.

8       “(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially  
9 related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.

10       “(f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

11       11. Section 2236 of the Code states:

12       “(a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or  
13 duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this  
14 chapter. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction  
15 occurred.

16       “(b) The district attorney, city attorney, or other prosecuting agency shall notify the  
17 Medical Board of the pendency of an action against a licensee charging a felony or misdemeanor  
18 immediately upon obtaining information that the defendant is a licensee. The notice shall identify  
19 the licensee and describe the crimes charged and the facts alleged. The prosecuting agency shall  
20 also notify the clerk of the court in which the action is pending that the defendant is a licensee,  
21 and the clerk shall record prominently in the file that the defendant holds a license as a physician  
22 and surgeon.

23       “(c) The clerk of the court in which a licensee is convicted of a crime shall, within 48 hours  
24 after the conviction, transmit a certified copy of the record of conviction to the board. The  
25 division may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of a crime in order to fix  
26 the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is of an offense substantially related to  
27 the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.

1       “(d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to  
2 be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1. The record of conviction  
3 shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred.”

4       12. Section 2236.1 of the Code states in relevant part:

5       “(a) A physician and surgeon’s certificate shall be suspended automatically during any time  
6 that the holder of the certificate is incarcerated after conviction of a felony, regardless of whether  
7 the conviction has been appealed. The Division of Medical Quality shall, immediately upon  
8 receipt of the certified copy of the record of conviction, determine whether the certificate of the  
9 physician and surgeon has been automatically suspended by virtue of his or her incarceration, and  
10 if so, the duration of that suspension. The division shall notify the physician and surgeon of the  
11 license suspension and of his or her right to elect to have the issue of penalty heard as provided in  
12 this section.”

### 13                               **FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### 14                               **(Conviction of a Crime)**

15       13. Respondent Gary Steven Christensen, M.D. is subject to disciplinary action under  
16 sections 2234 [unprofessional conduct], and/or 2234(e) [dishonest acts], and/or 2236 [conviction  
17 of a crime], and/or 490 [conviction of a crime], and/or 493 [record of conviction of a crime]. The  
18 circumstances are as follows:

19       14. On or about September 16, 2014, the United States Attorney filed a 14 count felony  
20 indictment for charges related to tax evasion, failing to file tax returns, and willful failure to file  
21 tax returns between 2004 through 2010 in *United States of America v. Gary Steven Christensen*,  
22 Case No. CR 14-08164-001-PCT-DGC, in the United States District Court, District of Arizona.  
23 The charges are related to Dr. Christensen’s work as an anesthesiologist.

24       15. On or about May 20, 2016, a jury found Respondent guilty on nine of the 14 charges.  
25 Respondent was found guilty of felony tax evasion for seven counts, and two misdemeanor  
26 counts of willfully failing to file tax returns.

27       16. On or about October 28, 2016, a United States District Court Judge sentenced  
28 Respondent to 42 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. Respondent

1 was also ordered to pay a \$750.00 fine and restitution in the amount of \$1,603,533.00 and  
2 \$1,604,283.00 in criminal monetary penalties. Respondent was ordered to surrender himself into  
3 the Board of Prisons to begin his prison sentence on January 3, 2017.

4 17. Respondent is incarcerated with the Federal Bureau of Prisons within the meaning of  
5 section 2236.1. On July 11, 2017, a Notice of Automatic Suspension was mailed to Respondent's  
6 address of record, as well as an address with the Federal Bureau of Prisons identified on the  
7 inmate locator website (<https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/>).

8 18. Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline based on  
9 sections 2234 [unprofessional conduct], and/or 2234(e) [dishonest acts], and/or 2236 [conviction  
10 of a crime], and/or 490 [conviction of a crime], and/or 493 [record of conviction of a crime].

## 11 **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### 12 **(Discipline, Restriction, or Limitation Imposed by Another Jurisdiction)**

13 19. On December 9, 2016, the Arizona Medical Board (Arizona Board) issued  
14 Respondent an Order for Letter of Public Reprimand and Probation, and Consent to the Same  
15 (Order). Following Respondent's felony conviction for tax evasion, the Arizona Board issued the  
16 Order and placed Respondent on probation for five years. He is also required to undergo the  
17 Professional/Problem-Based Ethics program within six months of his release from prison.

18 20. Respondent's conduct and the actions of the Arizona Board as set forth in paragraph  
19 19, above, constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of section 2234, and conduct  
20 subject to discipline within the meaning of sections 141 and 2305 of the code.

## 21 **THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

### 22 **(Failure to Notify the Board of a Criminal Indictment and Conviction)**

23 21. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 802.1 [failure to report  
24 indictment and conviction]. The allegations of Paragraphs 13 through 18, above, are herein  
25 incorporated by reference as if fully set forth below.

26 22. Respondent failed to report to the Medical Board of California the September 16,  
27 2014 indictment in *United States of America v. Gary Steven Christensen*, Case No. CR 14-08164-  
28 001-PCT-DGC.

23. Respondent failed to report to the Medical Board of the October 28, 2016 conviction in *United States of America v. Gary Steven Christensen*, Case No. CR 14-08164-001-PCT-DGC.

**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Medical Board of California issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate Number G44531, issued to Gary Steven Christensen, M.D.;

2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval of Gary Steven Christensen, M.D.'s authority to supervise physician assistants and advanced practice nurses;

3. Ordering Gary Steven Christensen, M.D., if placed on probation, to pay the Board the costs of probation monitoring; and

4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: JULY 20, 2017

  
KIMBERLY KIRCHMEYER  
Executive Director  
Medical Board of California  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
State of California  
*Complainant*

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**EXHIBIT A**

Arizona Medical Board Order for Public Letter of Reprimand and Probation, and Consent  
to the Same Order





## Arizona Medical Board

9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road, Scottsdale AZ 85258 • website: [www.azmd.gov](http://www.azmd.gov)  
Phone (480) 551-2700 • Toll Free (877) 255-2212 • Fax (480) 551-2707

### Governor

Douglas A. Ducey

### Members

James Gillard, M.D.  
Chair  
Physician Member

R. Screven Farmer, M.D.  
Vice-Chair  
Physician Member

Jodi Bain, Esq.  
Secretary  
Public Member

Marc Berg, M.D.  
Physician Member

Teresa Connolly, D.N.P.  
Public Member

Gary R. Figge, M.D.  
Physician Member

Robert E. Fromm, M.D.  
Physician Member

Pamela E. Jones  
Public Member

Lois E. Krahn, M.D.  
Physician Member

Edward G. Paul, M.D.  
Physician Member

Wanda Salter, R.N.  
Public Member/R.N.

### Executive Director

Patricia E. McSorley

I, Mary Bober, of the Arizona Medical Board, hereby certify that I am the official custodian of the records of the agency; and that the attached documents are true and complete copies of the documents requested regarding:

Physician Name: Gary S. Christensen, M.D.

License Number: 14081

Attached are the following document(s):

Document Name:


Physician Profile

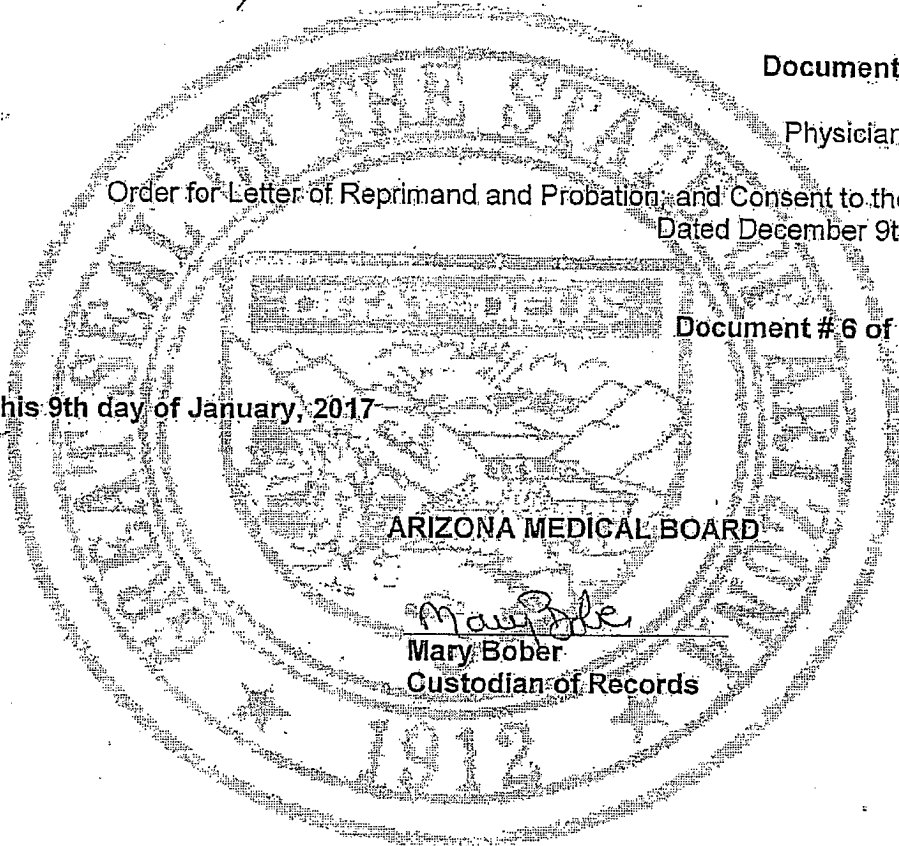
Order for Letter of Reprimand and Probation and Consent to the Same  
Dated December 9th, 2016

Document # 6 of Pages:

Dated this 9th day of January, 2017

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

  
Mary Bober  
Custodian of Records



## MD PROFILE PAGE



## Arizona Medical Board

azmd.gov  
Printed on 01/06/17 @ 03:43

## General Information

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**Gary S. Christensen MD**  
No Practice Address

License Number: 14081  
License Status: Active  
Licensed Date: 06/24/1983  
License Renewed: 06/19/2014  
Due to Renew By: 06/23/2016  
If not Renewed, License Expires: 10/23/2016

## Education and Training

---

Medical School:	UNIV OF AZ COLL OF MED Tucson, Arizona
Graduation Date:	09/01/1976
Internship:	07/01/1976 - 06/30/1977 NAVAL AEROSPACE MEDICAL INSTITUTE PENSACOLA, FL
Residency:	07/01/1977 - 06/30/1977 (Family Practice) NAVAL AEROSPACE MEDICAL INSTITUTE PENSACOLA, FL
Residency:	06/30/1978 - 06/29/1981 (Anesthesiology) NAVAL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER PORTSMOUTH, VA
Area of Interest	Anesthesiology
Area of Interest	Pain Management (Anesthesiology)

The Board does not verify current specialties. For more information please see the American Board of Medical Specialties website at <http://www.abms.org> to determine if the physician has earned a specialty certification from this private agency.

## Board Actions

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12/09/2016

Letter of Reprimand W/ Probation

A person may obtain additional public records related to any licensee, including dismissed complaints and non-disciplinary actions and orders, by making a written request to the Board. The Arizona Medical Board presents this information as a service to the public. The Board relies upon information provided by licensees to be true and correct, as required by statute. It is an act of unprofessional conduct for a licensee to provide erroneous information to the Board. The Board makes no warranty or guarantee concerning the accuracy or reliability of the content of this website or the content of any other website to which it may link. Assessing accuracy and reliability of the information obtained from this website is solely the responsibility of the user. The Board is not liable for errors or for any damages resulting from the use of the information contained herein.

Please note that some Board Actions may not appear until a few weeks after they are taken, due to appeals, effective dates and other administrative processes.

Board actions taken against physicians in the past 24 months are also available in a chronological list.

Credentials Verification professionals, please click [here](#) for information on use of this website.

1  
2  
3 BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

4 In the Matter of

5 GARY S. CHRISTENSEN, M.D.

6 Holder of License No. 14081  
7 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine  
8 In the State of Arizona.

Case No. MD-14-1431A.

ORDER FOR LETTER OF  
REPRIMAND AND PROBATION;  
AND CONSENT TO THE SAME

9 Gary S. Christensen, M.D. ("Respondent"), elects to permanently waive any right to  
10 a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for a Letter of Reprimand and Probation;  
11 admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of  
12 this Order by the Board.

13 FINDINGS OF FACT

14 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of  
15 the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

16 2. Respondent is the holder of license number 14081 for the practice of  
17 allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

18 3. The Board initiated case number MD-14-1431A after receiving a self-report  
19 from Respondent, through counsel, that Respondent was indicted for tax evasion.

20 4. On May 25, 2016, Respondent was found guilty of seven felony counts of  
21 Willful Evasion of Tax Assessment for the years 2004 — 2010 and two misdemeanor  
22 counts of Willful Failure to File Tax Return for the years 2009 and 2010.

23 5. On October 28, 2016, Respondent was sentenced regarding the conviction,  
24 including imposition of 42 months of imprisonment and payment of restitution to the  
25 Internal Revenue Service.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

a. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over  
Respondent.

b. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. §32-1401(27)(d) ("Committing a felony, whether or not involving moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case, conviction by any court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive evidence of the commission.").

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.
2. Respondent is placed on Probation for a period of 5 years with the following terms and conditions:

a. Continuing Medical Education ("CME")

Within 6 months from his release, Respondent shall successfully complete and pass the Professional/Problem-Based Ethics ("ProBE") program offered by the Center for Personalized Education for Physicians ("CREP") for Ethics and Boundaries. Respondent shall within thirty days of the effective date of this Order submit his proof of enrollment in the ProBE course. Upon completion of the CME, Respondent shall provide Board staff with satisfactory proof of attendance. The CME hours shall be in addition to the hours required for the biennial renewal of medical licensure. Respondent shall be responsible for the expenses of participation in ProBE. The Probation shall terminate upon Respondent's proof of successful completion of the CME course.

b. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state, federal and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in Arizona, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.

3. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action against Respondent based upon any violation of this Order, A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r).

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 9th day of December, 2016.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By Patricia E. McSorley  
Patricia E. McSorley  
Executive Director

CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.

2. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.

3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Order.

4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.

5. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.

6. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties.

1 7. This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal  
2 disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data  
3 Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.

4 8. If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the  
5 remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.

6 9. If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a  
7 defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice,  
8 prejudgment or other similar defense.

9 10. Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result  
10 in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("Violating a formal order, probation,  
11 consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive  
12 director under this chapter.") and 32-1451.

13 11. *Respondent has read and understands the conditions of probation.*

14   
15 GARY S. CHRISTENSEN, M.D.

DATED: 4 NOVEMBER 2016

16  
17 EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed  
18 this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016 to:

19 Stephen W. Myers  
20 Myers & Jenkins, P.C.  
21 714 East Rose Lane, Suite 100  
22 Phoenix, AZ 85014  
23 Attorney for Respondent

24 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed  
25 this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016 with:

26 Arizona Medical Board  
9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

  
Board staff